

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 remain pending. Claims 1-7 have been amended to recite more clearly an electronic wireless badge that contains a plurality of user codes and that can display user identification information corresponding to these user codes. Claims 8-11 have been amended to recite more clearly a network security station that contains a database of authorized user codes and that can transmit user identification information corresponding to these user codes. Claims 12-27 have been amended to recite more clearly an apparatus and method for providing user identification information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge.

Claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11-27

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Will, U.S. Patent No. 5,970,388 ("Will"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1-3 and 5-7, as amended, recite an electronic wireless badge that contains a plurality of user codes and that can display user identification information corresponding to these user codes. Claims 8-11 have been amended to recite more clearly a network security station that contains a database of authorized user codes and that can transmit user identification information corresponding to these user codes. Claims 12-27 have been amended to recite more clearly an apparatus and method for providing user identification information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge.

Will appears to disclose a method and apparatus for routing an incoming telephone call to an individual in a building. The individual carries a wireless communication unit that receives messages and transmits both responses and periodic signals to allow tracking the individual's location. When a call arrives, a message indicating the call is transmitted to the communications unit, together with responses that may be selected to determine how the call is to be routed.

As to claims 1-7, the communications unit in Will contains only information corresponding to one user. The unit does not contain a plurality of

user codes, as claimed. In addition, the unit displays only information relating to the incoming telephone call or message; it does not display user identification information, as also claimed by claims 1-7.

As to claims 8-9 and 11, the transmitting apparatus in Will consists of a PBX control connected to a radio transmitter. This apparatus transmits only information that a telephone call or message has been received and information about how such a call or message may be routed. Will therefore fails to disclose a network security station that transmits user identification information corresponding to user codes, as claimed by claims 8-9 and 11.

As to claims 12-27, as noted, in Will, the transmitting apparatus transmits and the communication unit receives only information about a telephone call or message and possible routing of the call. Will therefore fails to disclose an apparatus and method for providing user identification information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge, as claimed by claims 12-27.

The Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner that Wills also discloses additional limitations of the dependent claims. Wills fails to disclose periodically changing the information displayed on the badge and flashing a display of the badges in concert, both to prevent fraud, as recited by claims 16-17 and 24-25. Col. 4, lines 3-8, referenced by the Examiner, merely show that periodic transmissions with an identification code are made to the communications unit. The information transmitted is not changed periodically or flashed in concert for security purposes.

Likewise, Wills fails to disclose linking user identification information stored in an electronic wireless badge with a register checkout or other application computer, as recited by claims 18-19 and 26-27. Fig. 1, referenced by the Examiner, merely shows remote stations, which are used to transmit and receive information. These remote stations are not register checkouts or other application computers.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11-27 are patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 4 and 10

Claims 4 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Will as applied to claims 1 and 8, above, and further in view of Bork *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,246,376 ("Bork"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 4 and 10 are dependent on claims 1 and 8 and are patentable over Mills for the same reasons as claims 1 and 8. Mills fails to disclose or suggest an electronic wireless badge that contains a plurality of user codes and that can display user identification information corresponding to these user codes (claim 4); or a network security station that contains a database of authorized user codes and that can transmit user identification information corresponding to these user codes (claim 10). As the Examiner also recognizes, Mills fails to disclose the additional limitation in claims 4 and 10 that the wireless front ends of the badge and the station are BLUETOOTH devices.

Bork fails to remedy these deficiencies. Bork appears to disclose a system and method for wireless communication between two devices that allows the transfer of location information through a cellular or BLUETOOTH link. The system can be used to provide a continuous indication of estimated distance and direction relative to the two devices. Bork fails to disclose or suggest an electronic wireless badge or network security system that can receive and transmit user identification information corresponding to user codes contained in the badge.

The Examiner states that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Bork's BLUETOOTH capability to Will's telephone call routing system and that this combination discloses or suggests all the limitations of claims 4 and 10. The Applicants respectfully disagree.

Assuming that Will and Bork are properly combinable (they are not), the combination at most would result in Will's telephone routing system with a BLUETOOTH capability. The combination would still fail to teach or suggest an electronic wireless badge or network security station that can receive and transmit user identification information corresponding to user codes contained in the badge.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

1. (Amended) An electronic wireless badge device, comprising:
a wireless front end;
an information exchange module containing a plurality of user codes; and
an electronic display adapted to electronically display user identification [badge] information received by said wireless front end.

8. (Amended) A network security station, comprising:
a database of authorized user codes;
a database of user identification [badge] information corresponding to said authorized user codes; and
a wireless front end adapted to transmit said user identification [badge] information retrieved from said database of user identification [badge] information.

11. (Amended) The network security station [electronic wireless badge device] according to claim 9, wherein:
said user identification [badge] information includes a photo of an authorized wearer.

12. (Amended) A method of providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge, comprising:
establishing a wireless network between a network security station and a plurality of electronic wireless badges;
transmitting user identification [badge] display information to each of said plurality of electronic wireless badges; and
electronically displaying said user identification [badge] display information on each of said plurality of electronic wireless badges.

13. (Amended) The method of providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 12, wherein:

said wireless network is a wireless piconet network.

14. (Amended) The method of providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 13, wherein:

said user identification [badge] display information displayed on each of said plurality of electronic wireless badges is different.

15. (Amended) The method of providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 13, further comprising:

authorizing said electronic wireless badges to receive user identification [badge] display information.

16. (Amended) The method of providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 13, further comprising:

altering said user identification [badge] display information periodically to prevent fraud.

17. (Amended) The method of providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 16, wherein said altering comprises:

flashing a display of said electronic wireless badges in concert.

18. (Amended) The method of providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 13, further comprising:

linking user identification [badge] information stored in said electronic wireless badge with an application computer.

19. (Amended) The method of providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 18, wherein:

said application computer is a register checkout.

20. (Amended) Apparatus for providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge, comprising:

means for establishing a wireless network between a network security station and a plurality of electronic wireless badges;

means for transmitting user identification [badge] display information to each of said plurality of electronic wireless badges; and

means for electronically displaying said user identification [badge] display information on each of said plurality of electronic wireless badges.

21. (Amended) The apparatus for providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 20, wherein:

said means for establishing said wireless network establishes a wireless piconet network.

22. (Amended) The apparatus for providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 21, wherein:

said means for electronically displaying said user identification [badge] display information displays different user identification [badge] information on each of said plurality of electronic wireless badges.

23. (Amended) The apparatus for providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 21, further comprising:

means for authorizing said electronic wireless badges to receive user identification [badge] display information.

24. (Amended) The apparatus for providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 21, further comprising:

means for altering said user identification [badge] display information periodically to prevent fraud.

25. (Amended) The apparatus for providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 24, wherein said means for altering comprises:

means for flashing a display of said electronic wireless badges in concert.

26. (Amended) The apparatus for providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 21, further comprising:

means for linking user identification [badge] information stored in said electronic wireless badge with an application computer.

27. (Amended) The apparatus for providing electronic user identification [badge] information for display on a user's electronic wireless badge according to claim 26, wherein:

said application computer is a register checkout.